

## **Faith Lutheran Church- Council Minutes**

January 10, 2018

**Present:** Jim Ballsrud, Paige Buck, Sharon Foltzler, Carol and Phil Blankenburg, Pastor Bueltmann, Paul Nielsen, Dave Trimble and Carolyn Moffett

**Absent:** Jennifer Trevillian and Mark Fruendt

Called to order by Jim Ballsrud at 7:10 with Jim saying a prayer.

### **Chairman- Jim Ballsrud**

December 13, 2017, minutes were previously approved by email.

### **Pastor Report- Pastor Bueltmann**

Pastor reported that he is healthy and has been out of town for a couple weeks after Christmas. During December he has made several shut-in visits, 2 hospital visits, and served communion to 4 people at Monical's. The new member class has started on Sunday mornings during bible class with 3 separate households attending as potential new members. He attended the circuit Pastor's meeting at the University Chapel on the U of I campus. He also held 2 Nursing home worship services. The new women's bible study will be starting tomorrow evening. A baptism is scheduled for February 4, 2018.

### **Youth/Education Report- Jennifer Trevillian**

No Report.

### **Financial Secretary- Paul Nielsen**

\$19,070.83 general contributions for December 2017.

\$440 Building fund

Paul compared 2016 (\$167,791) to 2017 (\$183,299) noting an increase in contributions.

However, attendance has declined in 2017 to an average of 62 per Sunday compared to 64 in 2016.

### **Treasurer Report- Sharon Foltzler**

Sharon presented the end of year Financial Report for 2017 highlighting all categories that were over budget, also noting some December 2017 expenses including the payment for the Asphalt repairs for the parking lot. There was a discussion as to whether or not this \$2,400 expense

should be taken out of the general or building fund. After some discussion, it was determined to change this expenditure to come out of the Building Fund which will be transferred in January 2018. The YTD expenditures were \$175,068 with \$7,624 under budget for 2017.

The Proposed 2018 Budget was reviewed for 2018 which includes a 9% increase from 2017. Changes to the 2018 budget since the last meeting were reviewed. The final budget for 2018 is \$191,461.

Reconciled Bank Balances for as of 12/31/2017 were \$23,053 for the General Fund and \$50,402 for the Building Fund. Sharon also distributed a monthly budget worksheet for 2018 showing estimated monthly expenses to be \$16,000. The Mission and Charity Budget was reviewed for 2018. Pastor noted the addition of the Lutheran School Association of Decatur for \$2,000.

A motion to approve the adjusted 2018 budget for the annual meeting was made and approved.

#### **Stewardship- Phil Blankenburg**

- Attendance is a concern. The committee plans to look at the trends and reasons for the decline in attendance. The committee plans to gather and study the data in this area as one of their goals for the coming year.

#### **Elder Report- Dave Trimble**

Jeff Gregg will be staying on as an Elder and Greg Hanselman will be the Chairman of this committee. Dave reported that the advent services went well and the Christmas eve service was well attended. Plans are being made to reactivate the 5-year strategic planning committee

#### **Trustee- Mark Fruendt**

No report. Mark is currently out-of-town.

#### **Evangelism- Carol Blankenburg**

It has been a slow month. Thank you to Sharon for taking the leftover candy from the Christmas parade to the Livingston Center. Carol is continuing to investigate how to get our church listed on the signs leading into town.

#### **Fellowship- Paige Buck**

No report at this time. New committee member will be Jenna Clark.

#### **Annual Meeting - Jim Ballsrud**

The Annual Meeting Packet was reviewed. It was determined to distribute packets prior to the meeting as in the previous years. The committee members were reviewed and corrections made

for Dave Remmert and Dave Trimble both starting terms in 2013. Elaine Schweitzer needs to be added to the Altar Guild listing. It was recommended to add council officers to the church directory and website.

Jim thanked the outgoing committee members as well as the current council for their support and dedication to the church. He reminded everyone to clean out their mailbox.

### **Approval of Committee Reports**

A motion was made to approve all committee reports and was seconded, motion carried.

### **New Business**

Next meeting will be February 14, 2018 following the Ash Wednesday Service.

Have Jacob include the Installation of Officers to the Calendar for 2/4/18.

Meeting closed with prayer at 8:25.

Meeting minutes submitted by Carolyn Moffett

### **Action items**

Memorial gifts policy

Information brochure

Church signs

2018 Budget distribution

Expense documentation form